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ACLARA BIOSCIENCES, INC. 1288 PEAR AVENUE MOUNTAIN VIEW CA 94043 **COPY MAILED**

JUL 1 5 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of Sharat Singh et al Application No. 10/740,079 Filed: December 18, 2003 Attorney Docket No. 089.00US

: DECISION ON PETITIONS : UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) AND : UNDER 37 CFR 1.78(a)(6)

This is a decision on the petition filed June 7, 2004, which is being treated under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6), to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 365(c) and §119(e) for the benefit of the prior-filed nonprovisional and provisional applications set forth in the concurrently filed amendment.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) is only applicable to those applications filed on or after November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and 1.78(a)(5)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) must be accompanied by:

- the reference required by 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and 119(e) and 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(i) and 1.78(a)(5)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
- the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t); and
- a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and 1.78(a)(5)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The petition fails to comply with item (1) above.

The amendment filed with the instant petition reads that the instant application claims benefit to Provisional Application Nos. 60/304,296 and 60/325,292. However, the provisional applications were filed in the year of 2001, whereas the instant application was filed December 18, 2003. Therefore, the instant application was filed more than twelve months from the filing of the provisional applications.

Accordingly, before the petition under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) can be granted, a renewed petition under 37 CFR §§ 1.78(a)(3) and 1.78(a)(6) and a substitute amendment correcting the above matter is required.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

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Any questions concerning this matter may be directed to the undersigned at (703) 305-8859.

Karen Creasy
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Petitions Examiner

Office of Petitions

Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy